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General Assembly

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 125
Multilingualism

Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Paraguay, Qatar, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Viet Nam: draft resolution

The role of professional translation in connecting nations and fostering peace, understanding and development

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the pattern of conferences, including resolution 71/262 of 23 December 2016, reaffirming its resolution 42/207 C of 11 December 1987, and recalling also its previous resolutions on multilingualism, in particular resolution 69/324 of 11 September 2015,

Recalling also its resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries,

Recalling further the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[1] in which it is recognized that all cultures and civilizations can contribute to, and are crucial enablers of, sustainable development,

Recognizing that respect for the world's cultural and linguistic diversity is an essential prerequisite for the promotion, in the United Nations, of the spirit of openness, equity and dialogue,

Acknowledging the role of multilingualism in the activities of the United Nations and its projection to the world, as a core value of the Organization, and its pursuit as a means of promoting, protecting and preserving diversity of languages and cultures globally,

Mindful of how language, as a fusion of the common and the unique, reflects the idea of the strength of a united world, which stems from its diversity,

Noting that, as a transposition of a literary or scientific work, including technical work, from one language into another language, professional translation,

[1] Resolution 70/1.

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including translation proper, interpretation and terminology, is indispensable to preserving clarity, a positive climate and productiveness in international public discourse and interpersonal communication,

Recalling the paramount importance of the equality of the six official languages of the United Nations,

Recognizing the practical contribution of language professionals, both in conference servicing and in the field, to furthering the cause of the United Nations, including in the maintenance of peace and security, peacekeeping, the promotion of human rights, and operational activities for sustainable development,

Taking note with appreciation of the efforts of the Secretary-General to preserve high quality and craftsmanship in translation,

Welcoming the holding of the annual Saint Jerome Translation Contest to commemorate International Translation Day,

Welcoming also the cooperation of the Secretary-General with the network of universities that have signed a memorandum of understanding with the United Nations on the training of candidates for language competitive examinations, and recognizing the role of this cooperation in channelling talent towards the United Nations language services,

1. *Affirms* that professional translation, as a trade and an art, plays an important role in upholding the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, bringing nations together, facilitating dialogue, understanding and cooperation, contributing to development and strengthening world peace and security;

2. *Decides* to declare 30 September International Translation Day;

3. *Invites* all Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations and individuals, to observe International Translation Day, in an appropriate manner and in accordance with national priorities, in order to raise awareness of the importance of professional translation, and stresses that the cost of such activities should be met from voluntary contributions;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to preserve high quality and excellence in the work of language professionals in the United Nations.

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24 May 2017

Original: English

Seventy-first session
Agenda item 125
Multilingualism

Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Paraguay, Qatar, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Viet Nam: draft resolution

The role of professional translation in connecting nations and fostering peace, understanding and development

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution

Argentina, Bahrain, Central African Republic, China, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Namibia, Nicaragua, Peru, Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan

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United Nations A/71/L.69*

General Assembly

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18 May 2017

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 126 (j)
Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie

Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Canada, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritius, Morocco, Niger, Romania, Samoa, Senegal, Slovakia, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Tunisia: draft resolution

Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 33/18 of 10 November 1978, 50/3 of 16 October 1995, 52/2 of 17 October 1997, 54/25 of 15 November 1999, 56/45 of 7 December 2001, 57/43 of 21 November 2002, 59/22 of 8 November 2004, 61/7 of 20 October 2006, 63/236 of 22 December 2008, 65/263 of 14 January 2011, 67/137 of 18 December 2012 and 69/270 of 2 April 2015, as well as its decision 53/453 of 18 December 1998,

Recalling also its resolutions 61/266 of 16 May 2007, 63/306 of 9 September 2009, 65/311 of 19 July 2011, 67/292 of 24 July 2013 and 69/324 of 11 September 2015 on multilingualism,

Considering that the International Organization of la Francophonie, which is made up of 78 States Members of the United Nations, representing more than one third of the members of the General Assembly, is promoting multilateral cooperation in areas of common interest,

Bearing in mind the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations which encourage the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations through regional cooperation,

Bearing in mind also that, according to the Charter of la Francophonie, adopted on 23 November 2005 at the Ministerial Conference of la Francophonie, held in Antananarivo, the objectives of the International Organization of la Francophonie are to assist in the establishment and development of democracy, the

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prevention, management and settlement of conflicts, support for the rule of law and for human rights, the intensification of dialogue between cultures and civilizations, the establishment of closer ties among peoples through mutual knowledge, the strengthening of their solidarity through multilateral cooperation activities with a view to promoting the growth of their economies, and the promotion of education and training,

Welcoming the steps taken by the International Organization of la Francophonie to strengthen its ties with the organizations of the United Nations system and with international and regional organizations with a view to attaining its objectives,

Affirming the importance of a balanced and effective multilateral system that is representative of today's world, one that is based upon a strong and renewed United Nations,

Noting with satisfaction the commitment of the International Organization of la Francophonie to human rights, gender equality, empowerment of women, girls and youth and their active participation in society, multilingualism and multilateral cooperation for peace, democratic governance and the rule of law, economic governance and solidarity, sustainable development and its financing, especially poverty eradication in all its forms and dimensions, protection of the environment, sustainable and universal access to modern energy services, combating climate change, countering terrorism in all its forms and preventing radicalization to terrorism,

Welcoming the adoption of the Antananarivo Declaration at the sixteenth Summit of la Francophonie, held in Antananarivo on 26 and 27 November 2016 on the theme "Shared growth and responsible development: conditions for stability around the world and within la Francophonie", and noting the decision to hold the seventeenth Summit of la Francophonie in Yerevan in 2018 and the eighteenth Summit of la Francophonie in Tunis in 2020,

Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[1]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of this Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Noting with satisfaction the commitments made by the member States and Governments of the International Organization of la Francophonie on the adoption of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[2] as well as the adoption and early entry into force of the Paris Agreement on climate change,[3] and the outcome of the twenty-second

[1] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[2] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[3] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Marrakech, Morocco, from 7 to 18 November 2016,[4] reaffirmed by the Heads of State and Government of countries using French as a common language at the sixteenth Summit of la Francophonie, together with an undertaking to play an active role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and a determination to implement national sustainable development strategies to make an effective contribution to eradicating poverty, to ensuring sustainable and universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy services and to protecting the environment,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 69/270,[5]

Noting with satisfaction the substantial progress achieved in cooperation between the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies and programmes and the International Organization of la Francophonie,

Convinced that strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie serves the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Noting the will of the two organizations to consolidate, develop and strengthen the ties that exist between them in the political, economic, social and cultural fields with respect to each of the pillars of international peace and security, development and human rights,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[5] and welcomes the strengthened and fruitful cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie;

2. *Notes with satisfaction*, in accordance with the Declaration adopted by the Heads of State and Government of countries using French as a common language at the sixteenth Summit of la Francophonie, held in Antananarivo on 26 and 27 November 2016, the active participation of the International Organization of la Francophonie in the work of the United Nations, among whose purposes, as set forth in its Charter, are to maintain international peace and security, to develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and respect for the principle of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of those common ends;

3. *Also notes with satisfaction* the continued strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie in the area of human rights and in the promotion of gender equality, and commends the initiatives taken by the International Organization of la Francophonie in the areas of crisis and conflict prevention, management and resolution, the promotion of peace, support for democracy and the rule of law, full respect for human rights and good governance, the fight against impunity and the promotion of international criminal justice, in accordance with the commitments set forth in its Bamako Declaration of 3 November 2000 on the practices of democracy, rights and freedoms in the francophone world,[6] and reaffirmed at the Ministerial Conference of la

[4] See FCCC/CP/2016/10, annex I.
[5] See A/71/160-S/2016/621, sect. II.
[6] A/55/731, annex.

Francophonie on Conflict Prevention and Human Security, held on 13 and 14 May 2006 in Saint Boniface, Canada;

4. *Welcomes* the involvement of the International Organization of la Francophonie in high-level consultations on the Sahel and its genuine contribution, in cooperation with, among others, the United Nations, to crisis resolution and recovery and to peacebuilding in Burkina Faso, Burundi, the Central African Republic, the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Lebanon and Mali;

5. *Also welcomes* the strengthened cooperation between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the International Organization of la Francophonie, including to provide support for French-speaking countries in the context of the universal periodic review and other human rights mechanisms, and further welcomes the renewal of the cooperation agreement between the two organizations for the period 2016-2017 and of the programmes implemented since the renewal of the agreement, in the three identified areas of cooperation, namely, the promotion of diversity and the fight against all forms of discrimination, support for the United Nations human rights mechanisms and the protection of the rights of migrants;

6. *Expresses its deep concern* about the continued violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, including in countries in crisis or emerging from crisis, and particularly against women and children, as well as refugees, internally displaced persons and migrants, and welcomes the implementation of the cooperation agreement between the International Organization of la Francophonie and the International Committee of the Red Cross signed in May 2014;

7. *Welcomes* the development of cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie, with the participation of other regional and subregional organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations, in the fields of early warning and crisis and conflict prevention, encourages the pursuit of this initiative with a view to formulating practical recommendations to facilitate the establishment of relevant operational mechanisms, where necessary, and invites the relevant stakeholders to redouble their efforts to reduce risks and latent vulnerabilities, including by considering the development of risk management and resilience strategies;

8. *Recognizes*, as part of the cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie, the interest in intensifying efforts to move from early warning to rapid response and the need to promote the full participation of women and youth in conflict prevention, management and resolution mechanisms through their involvement in negotiation and peace agreement processes;

9. *Welcomes* the impetus given to the participation of States members of the International Organization of la Francophonie in peacekeeping operations, while recalling that it is up to the United Nations to preserve multilingualism and the Secretariat to integrate multilingualism in the activities of these operations, and draws attention to the strengthened cooperation between the International Organization of la Francophonie, on the one hand, and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support of the Secretariat, on the other, with a view to increasing the number of French-speaking personnel, including women, involved in United Nations peacekeeping operations;

10. *Notes* that a large number of civilian and military peacekeeping personnel are deployed by the United Nations in francophone countries, and in this

regard encourages the continuation of efforts by the States members of the International Organization of la Francophonie and by the Organization itself, taking into account the authority of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, to increase the supply of French-speaking civilian and military contingents on missions to francophone countries and to build their capacities, including access by French-speaking personnel to leadership positions in peacekeeping operations in francophone countries;

11. *Welcomes* the implementation of the Francophone Expertise and Training Network for Peace Operations, created in January 2014 in the presence of high-level representatives of the United Nations Secretariat, and the fruitful cooperation that it has established with the Secretariat, particularly with the Police Division of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, to strengthen the francophone presence in peacekeeping operations and to promote the use of the French language in peacekeeping operations deployed in a francophone environment through the dissemination of the learning method "*En avant*" and the organization of training courses by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support;

12. *Also welcomes* the creation in October 2016 of the Boutros-Ghali peacekeeping Observatory, which will constitute in particular a framework for exchanges between French-speaking experts and personalities from personnel-contributing countries and strives to support French-speaking States in their efforts to better prepare for their participation in peacekeeping operations, particularly those deployed in a francophone environment;

13. *Further welcomes* the contributions of francophone countries and of the International Organization of la Francophonie to the consultations of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations, created by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to make an assessment of peacekeeping operations, and notes their expectations for greater recognition, where appropriate, of the language dimension for the proper implementation of mandates;

14. *Welcomes* the participation of the International Organization of la Francophonie in the work of the Peacebuilding Commission on Burundi, the Central African Republic, Guinea and Guinea-Bissau, and strongly encourages the International Organization of la Francophonie and the Peacebuilding Commission to continue to cooperate actively;

15. *Also welcomes* the involvement of the International Organization of la Francophonie in promoting international criminal justice, as well as the signing of a partnership agreement between the International Organization of la Francophonie and the International Criminal Court, which illustrates the role played by the International Organization of la Francophonie in protecting human rights, restoring the rule of law and combating impunity;

16. *Further welcomes* the importance given by the States members of the International Organization of la Francophonie to cooperating in the area of international criminal justice and facilitating the development of judicial cooperation procedures between States, which is essential in prosecuting perpetrators of the most serious crimes;

17. *Welcomes* the efforts of the International Organization of la Francophonie to establish democratic governance of security systems, to define a francophone position with regard to justice, truth and reconciliation in order to support French-speaking States in crisis and in transition, and to promote the diversity of legal systems;

18. *Also welcomes* the cooperation between the International Organization of la Francophonie and the United Nations to prevent and combat terrorism, particularly with the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate;

19. *Further welcomes* the adoption of the Declaration of Heads of State and Government using French as a common language at the sixteenth Summit of la Francophonie, in which they welcomed General Assembly resolution 70/291 of 1 July 2016 on the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy Review, and welcomes the adoption by Heads of State and Government using French as a common language of a resolution on preventing radicalization and violent extremism which can be conducive to terrorism;

20. *Welcomes* the action taken by the International Organization of la Francophonie and its member States and Governments aimed at promoting the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals;

21. *Also welcomes* the action taken by the International Organization of la Francophonie in promoting education and training, including the integration of digital issues in those areas;

22. *Notes with satisfaction* the development of collaboration between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie in electoral monitoring and assistance, and encourages the strengthening of cooperation between the two organizations in that area;

23. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for including the International Organization of la Francophonie in the periodic meetings he holds with heads of regional organizations, and invites him to continue to do so, taking into account the role played by the International Organization of la Francophonie in conflict prevention and support for democracy and the rule of law, gender equality and empowerment of women and girls, and sustainable development, and in that regard encourages cooperation in the field between the United Nations, the International Organization of la Francophonie and regional organizations aimed at promoting the peaceful settlement of disputes, including through mediation;

24. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue involving the International Organization of la Francophonie in the efforts to promote multilingualism, a core value of the United Nations, bearing in mind the objective of eliminating disparities between the use of English and the use of other official languages within the Organization, including the activities linked to public relations and information, documentation, language services and conferences services, human resources management and staff training, as well as the activities affected by those disparities in field offices and peacekeeping and peacebuilding operations;

25. *Reaffirms* the need to respect the equality of the two working languages of the Secretariat, also reaffirms the use of additional working languages in specific duty stations as mandated, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to ensure that vacancy announcements specify the need for either of the working languages of the Secretariat unless the functions of the post require a specific working language;

26. *Considers* that the interaction of the United Nations with the local population in the field is essential and that language skills constitute an important element of the selection and training processes, and therefore affirms that a good command of the official language or languages spoken in the country of residence should be taken into account as an important asset during those processes;

27. *Notes* the commitment of States members of the International Organization of la Francophonie to improve global governance so as to promote a

balanced multilateral system which assures permanent and equitable representation of Africa in decision-making bodies;

28. *Also notes* the firm commitment by the member States and Governments of the International Organization of la Francophonie to international peace and security, democracy, human rights, the rule of law, linguistic and cultural diversity, good governance, sustainable development, and bridging the digital gap as reaffirmed at the sixteenth Summit of la Francophonie, and the commitment of the member States of the International Organization of la Francophonie to take specific actions in the following areas, as set out in the Antananarivo Declaration and the resolutions adopted at the Summit:

(a) Prevention of radicalization and violent extremism which can be conducive to terrorism;

(b) Combating recruitment, exploitation and use of children in armed conflicts;

(c) Promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls;

(d) Ending child, early and forced marriages;

(e) Water as an instrument of cooperation, prevention, sustainable peace and human development;

(f) Access to clean and sustainable energy for all in Africa;

(g) Promotion of decentralization and local development;

(h) Promotion of education and professional and technical training;

(i) Implementation of the Paris Agreement on climate change;[7]

(j) Promotion of sustainable ocean-based economies;

(k) Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030;[8]

(l) Effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III);[9]

(m) Ensuring road safety;

(n) Promotion of investments in the health sector;

(o) Promotion of intercultural dialogue as a factor for achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[9] and its Sustainable Development Goals;

(p) Promotion of the use of French and linguistic diversity;

29. *Invites* the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as the regional commissions, including the Economic Commission for Africa, to strengthen the cooperation with the Secretary-General of la Francophonie by identifying new synergies in favour of sustainable development, in particular in the areas of poverty eradication, economic growth, energy, the environment and the fight against climate change, culture, education, training and the development of new information technologies, in particular with a view to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals and the Sustainable Development Goals, to the benefit of all, including children, young people and women;

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[7] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[8] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[9] Resolution 70/1.

30. *Welcomes* the renewal of the agreement between the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the International Organization of la Francophonie, on 6 June 2014, as well as their cooperation, in particular in such areas as women's participation in political decision-making and in economic, social and cultural life, advocacy for the equality of women and men, the integration of gender equality into sustainable development and combating violence against women and girls, and invites the two institutions to strengthen their cooperation in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

31. *Also welcomes* the decision of the Heads of State and Government using French as a common language at the sixteenth Summit of la Francophonie to create within the International Organization of la Francophonie a permanent entity for the promotion of gender equality and the rights and empowerment of women and girls;

32. *Further welcomes* the Framework Agreement signed on 7 December 2015 between the International Organization of la Francophonie and the United Nations Development Programme, and their cooperation, particularly in the fields of peace and democracy, sustainable development, climate change, economic development, South-South cooperation and support for civil society, and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, giving priority to job creation and entrepreneurship, as well as inclusive, sustainable and resilient development;

33. *Welcomes* the will expressed by the International Organization of la Francophonie to contribute to the success of the negotiations leading to the conclusion in 2018 of a global compact on refugees and a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration, in line with the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants,[10] and to the outcome of the high-level United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, to be held in New York from 5 to 9 June 2017;

34. *Also welcomes* the cooperation between the World Intellectual Property Organization and the International Organization of la Francophonie to implement the memorandum of understanding signed in Geneva on 12 May 2014 between the two organizations aimed at intensifying their technical cooperation efforts for the benefit of their members;

35. *Expresses its gratitude* to the International Organization of la Francophonie for the steps it has taken in recent years to promote cultural and linguistic diversity and dialogue between cultures and civilizations, and encourages the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie to cooperate more closely to ensure full respect for provisions on multilingualism;

36. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of la Francophonie for their sustained efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the two organizations, thereby serving their mutual interests in the political, economic, social, cultural and environmental fields;

37. *Welcomes* the involvement of the countries that use French as a common language, particularly through the International Organization of la Francophonie, in the preparation for, conduct of and follow-up to international conferences organized under the auspices of the United Nations, as witnessed at the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Sendai, Japan, from 14 to 18 March

[10] Resolution 71/1.

2015, the eleventh session of the United Nations Forum on Forests, held in New York from 4 to 15 May 2015, the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Addis Ababa from 13 to 16 July 2015, the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, held in New York from 25 to 27 September 2015, the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Paris from 30 November to 11 December 2015, the first World Humanitarian Summit, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 23 and 24 May 2016, the Comprehensive High-level Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020, held in Antalya, Turkey, from 27 to 29 May 2016, the high-level plenary meeting on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants, held in New York on 19 September 2016, the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016, and the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Marrakech, Morocco, from 7 to 18 November 2016;

38. *Also welcomes* the high-level meetings held periodically between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of la Francophonie, and requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations, acting in cooperation with the Secretary-General of la Francophonie, to encourage the holding of periodic meetings between their representatives as well as with the Group of Francophone Ambassadors at United Nations Headquarters in order to promote the exchange of information, coordination of activities and identification of new areas of cooperation through the use of the French language as a vector for development;

39. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to take the steps necessary, in collaboration with the Secretary-General of la Francophonie, to continue to promote cooperation between the two organizations;

40. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

41. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie".

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 126 (j)
Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie

Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Canada, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritius, Morocco, Niger, Romania, Samoa, Senegal, Slovakia, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Tunisia: draft resolution

Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo, Czechia, Finland, Haiti, Latvia, Lebanon, Monaco, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Slovenia, Sweden, Thailand, Ukraine and Viet Nam

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General Assembly

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 62 (a)
New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support: new Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support

Ecuador:* draft resolution

New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/2 of 16 September 2002 on the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development,

Recalling also its resolution 57/7 of 4 November 2002 on the final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development and all its subsequent resolutions, including resolution 70/295 of 25 July 2016, entitled "New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support",

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of this Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015, entitled "Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda)", which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating

* On behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

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an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development underscores the special challenges facing the most vulnerable countries, including African countries,

Welcoming the adoption of Agenda 2063 by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its twenty-fourth ordinary session, held in Addis Ababa on 30 and 31 January 2015, as the African Union long-term strategy emphasizing industrialization, youth employment, improved natural resource governance and the reduction of inequalities,

Welcoming also the adoption by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union of the first 10 year implementation plan (2014-2023) of the African Union Agenda 2063, which outlines key African flagship projects, fast-track programmes, priority areas, specific targets and African strategies and policy measures at all levels to support its implementation,

Welcoming further the Paris Agreement, adopted at the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Paris from 30 November to 13 December 2015,[1]

Welcoming the convening of the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, held in Marrakech, Morocco, from 7 to 18 November 2016, and welcoming also the Marrakech Action Proclamation,

Recalling the political declaration on Africa's development needs, adopted at the high-level meeting on Africa's development needs on 22 September 2008,[2]

Recalling also that significant challenges remain in achieving sustainable development in Africa, as emphasized in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[3] including the importance of fulfilling all commitments to advance action in areas critical to Africa's sustainable development,

Taking note of the declaration of the high-level meeting of African and international leaders, entitled "Toward African renaissance: renewed partnership for a unified approach to end hunger in Africa by 2025 under the framework of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme",

Noting the Rome Declaration on Nutrition,[4] as well as the Framework for Action,[5] which provides a set of voluntary policy options and strategies for use by Governments, as appropriate, adopted at the Second International Conference on Nutrition, held in Rome from 19 to 21 November 2014,

Recalling its resolution 70/259 of 1 April 2016, by which it proclaimed 2016-2025 the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition,

Recalling also its resolution 66/293 of 17 September 2012, by which it established a United Nations monitoring mechanism to review commitments made towards Africa's development, and looking forward to the third biennial report of

[1] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.
[2] Resolution 63/1.
[3] Resolution 66/288, annex.
[4] World Health Organization, document EB 136/8, annex I.
[5] Ibid., annex II.

the Secretary-General on the review of the implementation of the commitments made towards Africa's development, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session,

Noting relevant forums such as the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation and its second high-level meeting, held in Nairobi from 28 November to 1 December 2016,

Bearing in mind that African countries have primary responsibility for their own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, bearing in mind also the need for their development efforts to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, and in this regard recalling the support given by the International Conference on Financing for Development to the New Partnership,[6]

Reiterating the need for the international community to implement all commitments regarding the economic and social development of Africa,

1. *Welcomes* the fourteenth consolidated report of the Secretary-General[7] and the second biennial report of the Secretary-General on the review of the implementation of the commitments made towards Africa's development;[8]

2. *Reaffirms its full support* for the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;[9]

3. *Reaffirms* the importance of supporting the African Union Agenda 2063 and its first 10 year implementation plan (2014-2023) and the programme of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, both of which are integral to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and offer an important opportunity for Africa to achieve inclusive and transformative development with equity, and underscores in this regard the importance of a coherent and coordinated implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda;

4. *Welcomes* the adoption of General Assembly resolution 71/254 of 23 December 2016 on the Framework for a Renewed United Nations-African Union Partnership on Africa's Integration and Development Agenda 2017-2027, and calls upon the Secretary-General to provide, as appropriate, predictable support for full, effective and efficient implementation of the Framework;

5. *Welcomes also* the ministerial statement on the theme "Towards an integrated and coherent approach to the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals" adopted by the ninth Joint Annual Meetings of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration and the Economic Commission for Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, held in Addis Ababa on 4 and 5 April 2016;

6. *Welcomes further* the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 70/293 of 25 July 2016 on the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (2016-2025), and requests the Secretary-General to support, within existing resources, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in its assistance to the African Union, African countries and regional organizations in the implementation of programmes for the Third Decade;

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[6] See *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[7] A/71/189.

[8] A/71/203.

[9] A/57/304, annex.

7. *Reaffirms its commitment* to the full implementation of the political declaration on Africa's development needs,2 as reaffirmed in the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development, adopted as the outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008;[10]

8. *Recognizes* the progress made in the implementation of the New Partnership as well as regional and international support for the New Partnership, while acknowledging that much needs to be done in its implementation;

9. *Takes note* of the declaration of the special summit of the African Union on HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, held in Abuja from 12 to 16 July 2013, on the progress made in implementing the Abuja actions towards the elimination of HIV and AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria in Africa by 2030, also takes note of the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: On the Fast Track to Accelerating the Fight against HIV and to Ending the AIDS Epidemic by 2030, adopted on 8 June 2016 at the high-level meeting on HIV/AIDS,[11] and reaffirms the resolve to provide assistance for prevention, treatment and care, with the aim of ensuring an HIV/AIDS-, malaria- and tuberculosis-free Africa by addressing the needs of all, in particular the needs of women, children and young people, and the urgent need to scale up significantly efforts towards achieving the goal of universal access to comprehensive HIV/AIDS prevention programmes, treatment, care and support in African countries, to accelerate and intensify efforts to expand access to affordable and quality medicines in Africa, including antiretroviral drugs, by encouraging pharmaceutical companies to make drugs available, and to ensure strengthened global partnership and increased bilateral and multilateral assistance, where possible on a grant basis, to combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases in Africa through the strengthening of health systems;

10. *Also takes note* of the African Union decision to extend the African Union Road Map on Shared Responsibility and Global Solidarity for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Response in Africa, from 2016 to 2020, to achieve full implementation, notes the revitalization of AIDS Watch Africa as an African high-level platform to advocate action, accountability and resource mobilization for the response to HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria in Africa, and requests, as appropriate, and in line with other international obligations, development partners and the United Nations system to support efforts of African countries and organizations to reach the main objectives put forward in the African Union Road Map, including achieving diversified sustainable financing, strengthening regulatory harmonization and local pharmaceutical manufacturing capacity and enhancing leadership and governance of the responses;

11. *Further takes note* of the declaration on polio eradication in Africa, entitled "Our historic legacy to future generations", adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its twenty-fifth ordinary session, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, on 14 and 15 June 2015, including the commitment to the goal of global polio eradication, and calls upon development partners, including the United Nations system, to support African efforts, including immunization and disease surveillance initiatives;

12. *Recognizes* the profound socioeconomic impact of the Ebola virus disease in West Africa, including on the capacity to provide basic services and economic activities, expresses deep concern about the potential reversal, due to the

[10] Resolution 63/239, annex.
[11] Resolution 70/266, annex.

Ebola outbreak, of the gains made by the affected countries in development, peacebuilding, political stability and the reconstruction of socioeconomic infrastructure in recent years, and calls for effective measures and targeted investments to overcome these difficulties and to support recovery priorities, including the importance of maintaining strong surveillance and response systems, particularly in the most affected countries, in line with the outcome of the International Ebola Recovery Conference, held in New York on 10 July 2015;

13. *Stresses* the importance of improving maternal and child health, and in this regard welcomes the Declaration on Ending Preventable Child and Maternal Deaths in Africa, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its twenty-third ordinary session, held in Malabo on 26 and 27 June 2014;

14. *Reaffirms* that achieving gender equality, empowering all women and girls, and the full realization of their human rights are essential to achieving sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, reiterates the need for gender mainstreaming, including targeted actions and investments in the formulation and implementation of all financial, economic, environmental and social policies, and recommits to adopting and strengthening sound policies and enforceable legislation and transformative actions for the promotion of gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment at all levels, to ensure women's equal rights, access and opportunities for participation and leadership in the economy and to eliminate gender-based violence and discrimination in all its forms;

15. *Welcomes* the Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods and the Declaration on Nutrition Security for Inclusive Economic Growth and Sustainable Development in Africa, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its twenty-third ordinary session, and further welcomes the African Union strategy and road map for facilitating the realization of the 2014 Malabo Commitments on Agriculture, launched during the twenty-fourth ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, in January 2015;

16. *Expresses concern* about the adverse impact of the consequences of the world financial and economic crisis, including on development, and evidence of an uneven, fragile and slow recovery, cognizant that the global economy, notwithstanding significant efforts that helped to contain tail risks, improve financial market conditions and stability and sustain recovery, still remains in a challenging phase, with downside risks, including high volatility in global markets, excessive volatility of commodity prices, high unemployment, particularly among young people, unsustainable debt in some countries and widespread fiscal strains, which pose challenges for global economic recovery and reflect the need for additional progress towards sustaining and rebalancing global demand, and stresses the need for continuing efforts to address systemic fragilities and imbalances and to reform and strengthen the international financial system while implementing the reforms agreed upon to date;

17. *Recognizes* that, while global growth is returning, there is a need to further strengthen the recovery, which is still uneven, stresses the urgent need for full recovery and sustained and accelerated growth, which translates into new employment opportunities, secure incomes and improved livelihoods, and reaffirms the need to continue to support the special needs of Africa and to take action to mitigate the multidimensional impacts of the crisis on the continent;

18. *Notes* that the rapid economic growth of some developing countries has had a positive impact on the efforts of the African continent to sustain and expand

growth, despite the fact that those developing countries continue to face development challenges;

19. *Expresses concern* about the increasing challenges posed by climate change, drought, land degradation, desertification, the loss of biodiversity and floods, and their negative consequences for the fight against poverty and hunger, which could pose serious additional challenges to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly in Africa;

20. *Underlines* the significant potential of regional economic integration and interconnectivity to promote inclusive growth and sustainable development, and reiterates its commitment to strengthening regional cooperation and regional trade agreements;

21. *Reiterates* that, for all countries, public policies and the mobilization and effective use of domestic resources, underscored by the principle of national ownership, are central to the common pursuit of sustainable development, including achieving the Sustainable Development Goals;

22. *Expresses concern* at Africa's disproportionately low share of the volume of international trade, which stands at approximately [3.3 per cent], and further expresses concern at the increased debt burden of some African countries;

23. *Expresses deep concern* that bilateral official development assistance to Africa decreased in 2016;

24. *Calls upon* developing countries and countries with economies in transition to continue their efforts to create a domestic environment conducive to encouraging entrepreneurship and attracting investments by, inter alia, achieving a transparent, stable and predictable investment climate with proper contract enforcement and respect for property rights, embedded in sound macroeconomic policies and institutions;

25. *Notes* that foreign direct investment is a major source of financing for development, that it has a critical role in achieving inclusive economic growth and sustainable development, including through the promotion of job creation and the eradication of poverty and hunger, and that it contributes to the active participation of the African economies in the global economy and facilitates regional economic cooperation and integration, and in this regard calls upon, as appropriate, developed countries to continue to devise source-country measures to encourage and facilitate the flow of foreign direct investment through, inter alia, the provision of export credits and other lending instruments, risk guarantees and business development services;

26. *Also notes* the importance of promoting the formalization of informal sector activities in Africa;

27. *Emphasizes* that economic development, including inclusive industrial development, and policies which seek to enhance productive capacities in Africa can generate employment and income for the poor and, therefore, be an engine for poverty eradication and for achieving internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals;

28. *Recalls its commitment* to broadening and strengthening the voice and participation of developing countries, including African countries, in international economic decision-making, norm-setting and global economic governance;

I
Actions by African countries and organizations

29. *Welcomes* the progress made by African countries in fulfilling their commitments in the implementation of the New Partnership to deepen democracy, human rights, good governance and sound economic management, and encourages African countries, with the participation of stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, to continue their efforts towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, developing and strengthening institutions for governance, creating an environment conducive to involving the private sector, including small and medium-sized enterprises, in the New Partnership implementation process, developing innovative public-private partnerships for financing infrastructure projects and attracting foreign direct investment for development;

30. *Also welcomes* the collaboration between the African Private Sector Forum and the United Nations Global Compact, and encourages the strengthening of this partnership in conjunction with the African Union Commission in support of the development of the African private sector and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, in line with the relevant executive decisions of the African Union;

31. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts exerted by the African Union and the regional economic communities in the area of economic integration, as well as ongoing efforts by the African Union in the operationalization of the provision contained in General Assembly resolutions 59/213 of 20 December 2004, 61/296 of 17 September 2007 and 63/310 of 14 September 2009, and stresses the key role of the United Nations system in supporting the African Union in the social, economic and political fields and in the area of peace and security;

32. *Recognizes* the important role that African regional economic communities can play in the implementation of the New Partnership and Agenda 2063 and its first 10 year action plan in close cooperation with the African Union, and in this regard encourages African countries and the international community to give regional economic communities the support necessary to strengthen their capacity;

33. *Reiterates its commitment* to further strengthening the mobilization and effective use of domestic resources, recognizing that domestic resources are first and foremost generated by economic growth, supported by an enabling environment at all levels;

34. *Acknowledges* the progress made towards ensuring free movement of persons as well as goods and services in Africa, and in this regard welcomes the launch of the Tripartite Free Trade Area, comprising 26 African States members of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa, the East African Community and the Southern African Development Community, as an important step towards further strengthening regional integration and the establishment of the Continental Free Trade Area by 2017, and calls upon the United Nations system and development partners to continue to support the efforts of African countries, the African Union and regional economic communities to enhance intra-African trade;

35. *Recalls* the commitment of the African leaders to Africa's political, social and economic integration agenda and to the ideal of pan-Africanism and African renaissance, as reaffirmed in the solemn declaration adopted on 26 May 2013 on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the Organization of African Unity/African Union;

36. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the high-level events organized by the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Africa during Africa Week 2016, in close partnership with the African Union Commission, the Planning and Coordination Agency of the New Partnership, the African Peer Review Mechanism and the United Nations system, on the theme "Strengthening partnerships for inclusive sustainable development, good governance, peace and stability in Africa", which aimed at highlighting the importance of aligning Africa's partnerships with traditional and new and emerging development partners towards supporting the implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development [12] and mobilizing international support for promoting a coherent, coordinated and mutually reinforcing implementation of both agendas;

37. *Also welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations and the African Union to align the clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa [13] with the strategic frameworks of the African Union and the New Partnership for 2014-2017 and Agenda 2063, welcomes in this regard the Framework for a Renewed United Nations-African Union Partnership on Africa's Integration and Development Agenda 2017-2027, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its twenty-fifth ordinary session and welcomed by the General Assembly in its resolution 71/254, as the successor programme to the 2006 United Nations-African Union 10 year capacity-building programme, which expired in 2016, and invites development partners, including the United Nations system, to continue to support the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa in achieving its objectives, including through the allocation of necessary funds to support the implementation of its activities;

38. *Underlines* the importance of enhancing the strategic partnership between the United Nations and the African Union and the regional economic communities, including in promoting an integrated and coherent implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the African Union Agenda 2063;

39. *Welcomes* the commendable progress that has been achieved in implementing the African Peer Review Mechanism, in particular the voluntary adherence of 36 African countries to the Mechanism and the completion of the peer review process in 20 countries, welcomes the progress in implementing the national programmes of action resulting from those reviews, in this regard urges African States that have not yet done so to consider joining the Mechanism process, and encourages further strengthening of the Mechanism process for its efficient performance;

40. *Also welcomes* the adoption by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its twenty-fifth ordinary session of the declaration proclaiming 2015 the Year of Women's Empowerment and Development towards Africa's Agenda 2063;

41. *Further welcomes* the decision of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union to proclaim 2016 the African Year of Human Rights with Particular Focus on the Rights of Women and the declaration adopted in this regard by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union

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[12] Resolution 70/1.

[13] The clusters adopted by the Regional Coordination Mechanism at its seventeenth session are: (a) sustainable and inclusive economic growth, industry, trade and regional integration; (b) infrastructure development; (c) human capital development, health, science, technology and innovation; (d) social development, labour, employment creation, social protection, migration and mobility; (e) women and gender equality and youth empowerment; (f) humanitarian matters and disaster risk management; (g) environment, urbanization and population; and (h) advocacy, information, communications and culture.

at its twenty-seventh ordinary session, held in Kigali in July 2016, including the determination to protect and promote women's human rights, and expresses its appreciation for the continuing and increasing efforts of African countries in mainstreaming the gender perspective and the empowerment of women in the implementation of the New Partnership;

42. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its twenty-seventh ordinary session of the decision proclaiming 2017 the Year of Harnessing Demographic Dividend through Investments in the Youth;

43. *Encourages* African countries to accelerate the achievement of the objective of food security and nutrition in Africa, welcomes the commitment made by African leaders to allocate at least 10 per cent of public expenditure to agriculture and to ensure its efficiency and effectiveness, and in this regard reaffirms its support for the commitments contained in the Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods and for the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme, under the strong leadership of African countries;

44. *Welcomes* the engagement of 50 African countries in the implementation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme, particularly the commendable progress made by the 44 African countries and the four regional economic communities that signed compacts and committed themselves to ensuring an annual rate of growth in agriculture of 6 per cent and to allocating at least 10 per cent of public expenditure to the agricultural sector, as appropriate, and noting with appreciation that, to date, 12 countries have reached or surpassed the 10 per cent budget allocation target, while another 13 countries are currently spending between 5 and 10 per cent;

45. *Encourages* African countries to strengthen and expand local and regional infrastructure and to continue to share best practices with a view to strengthening regional and continental integration, and in this regard notes with appreciation the work of the high-level subcommittee of the African Union on the Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative, which seeks to further strengthen the development of infrastructure on the African continent in collaboration with relevant development partners;

46. *Also encourages* African countries to maintain the trend of increasing investment in infrastructure development, including through strengthened domestic resources mobilization, and improving the efficiency of existing infrastructure investment;

47. *Further encourages* African countries to continue their efforts in investing in education, science, technology and innovation to enhance value addition and industrial development;

II
Response of the international community

48. *Welcomes* the efforts by development partners to strengthen cooperation with the New Partnership;

49. *Also welcomes* the various important initiatives established between African countries and their development partners, as well as other initiatives, emphasizes the importance of coordination in such initiatives on Africa and the need for their effective implementation in the spirit of win-win cooperation and to build a community of shared future for mankind, and in this regard recognizes the important role that North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation can play in

supporting Africa's development efforts, including in the implementation of the New Partnership, while bearing in mind that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for but rather a complement to North-South cooperation;

50. *Recognizes* that the principle of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits is the basis for global economic governance, and encourages further efforts to strengthen cooperation with Africa to promote connectivity of policy, transportation, trade, finance and people for Africa's development;

51. *Urges* continued support of measures to address the challenges of poverty eradication, hunger and malnutrition, job creation and sustainable development in Africa, including, as appropriate, debt relief, improved market access, support for the private sector and entrepreneurship, fulfilment of commitments on official development assistance and increased flows of foreign direct investment, and transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms;

52. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Africa Global Partnership Platform as a mechanism for feeding Africa's interests and perspectives into wider global processes;

53. *Expresses deep concern* about the continuing negative effects of desertification, land degradation and drought on the African continent and underlines the need for short-, medium- and long-term measures, and in this regard calls for the continued effective implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[14] including its 10 year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008-2018),[15] to address the situation;

54. *Recognizes* that Africa is one of the regions that contribute the least to climate change, is extremely vulnerable and exposed to the adverse impacts of climate change, and in this regard calls upon the international community, including developed countries, to continue to support Africa to address its adaptation needs through, inter alia, the development, transfer and deployment of technology on mutually agreed terms, capacity-building and the provision of adequate and predictable resources, in line with existing commitments, and highlights the need for full implementation of the agreed outcomes of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[16] including the Paris Agreement;[1]

55. *Notes* the progress made at the Tenth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held in Nairobi from 15 to 19 December 2015, and looks forward to the timely implementation of its outcomes;

56. *Reiterates* the important role of trade as an engine of sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, in particular its contribution to boosting job creation, given high youth unemployment in Africa, and to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals, and emphasizes the need to resist protectionist tendencies;

57. *Also reiterates* the need for all countries and relevant multilateral institutions to continue efforts to enhance coherence in their trade policies towards African countries, and acknowledges the importance of efforts to fully integrate African countries into the international trading system and to build their capacity to compete through such initiatives as Aid for Trade and, given the world economic

[14] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[15] A/C.2/62/7, annex.

[16] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

and financial crisis, the provision of assistance to address the adjustment challenges of trade liberalization;

58. *Strongly urges* States to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries;

59. *Underlines* the importance of debt crisis prevention and prudent debt management, calls for a comprehensive and sustainable solution to the external debt problems of African countries, and recognizes the important role, on a case-by-case basis, of debt relief, including debt cancellation, as appropriate, the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and debt restructuring;

60. *Reiterates* that the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments remains crucial, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to least developed countries, is encouraged by those few countries that have met or surpassed their commitment to 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance and the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to least developed countries, and urges all others to step up efforts to increase their official development assistance and to make additional concrete efforts towards the official development assistance targets;

61. *Underlines* the importance of South-South cooperation as an important element of international cooperation for development, as a complement to, not a substitute for, North-South cooperation, recognizes its increased importance, different history and particularities, and stresses that South-South cooperation should be seen as an expression of solidarity among peoples and countries of the South, based on their shared experiences and objectives, and that it should continue to be guided by the principles of respect for national sovereignty, national ownership and independence, equality, non-conditionality, non-interference in domestic affairs and mutual benefit;

62. *Welcomes* the increased contributions of South-South cooperation to poverty eradication and sustainable development, encourages developing countries to voluntarily step up their efforts to strengthen South-South cooperation and to further improve its development effectiveness in accordance with the provisions of the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,[17] and commits to strengthening triangular cooperation as a means of bringing relevant experience and expertise to bear in development cooperation;

63. *Considers* that innovative mechanisms of financing can make a positive contribution towards assisting developing countries in mobilizing additional resources for financing for development on a voluntary basis and that such financing should supplement and not be a substitute for traditional sources of financing, and, while highlighting the considerable progress on innovative sources of financing for development achieved to date, stresses the importance of scaling up present initiatives and developing new mechanisms, as appropriate;

64. *Welcomes* the increasing efforts to improve the quality of official development assistance and increase its development impact, recognizes the

[17] Resolution 64/222, annex.

Development Cooperation Forum of the Economic and Social Council, notes other initiatives, such as the high-level forums on aid effectiveness, which produced, inter alia, the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, the Accra Agenda for Action[18] and the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, which make important contributions to the efforts of the countries that have made commitments to them, including through the adoption of the fundamental principles of national ownership, alignment, harmonization, transparency, accountability and managing for results, and bears in mind that there is no one-size-fits-all formula that will guarantee effective assistance and that the specific situation of each country needs to be fully considered;

65. *Invites* development partners to continue to assist African countries in their efforts to strengthen national health systems, including by providing and developing skilled health personnel, reliable health information and data, research infrastructure and laboratory capacity, and to expand surveillance systems in the health sector, including support for the efforts to prevent, protect against and combat outbreaks of diseases, including of neglected tropical diseases, and in this context reiterates its support for the Kampala Declaration and Agenda for Global Action and follow-up conferences to respond to the serious health workforce crisis in Africa;

66. *Recognizes* the need for Africa's development partners that are supporting agriculture, nutrition and food security in Africa to align their efforts to implement the commitments contained in the Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods and the Declaration on Nutrition Security for Inclusive Economic Growth and Sustainable Development in Africa, and towards supporting the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme and using its results framework, which is an integral component of the design and implementation of the national and regional investment plans of the Programme for alignment of external funding, and in this regard takes note of the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security;[19]

67. *Also recognizes* the need for Africa's development partners to align their efforts in infrastructure investment towards supporting the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa, and welcomes in this regard the convening in Dakar on 14 and 15 June 2014 of the Financing Summit for Africa's Infrastructure, which adopted the Dakar Agenda for Action to mobilize investment towards infrastructure development projects, starting with 16 bankable projects identified from the priority action plan of the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa, and calls upon development partners to support the implementation of the Dakar Agenda;

68. *Welcomes* the first Global Infrastructure Forum, held in Washington, D.C., on 16 April 2016, and in this regard recalls, as outlined in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[20] that a greater range of voices should be heard, particularly from developing countries, to identify and address infrastructure and capacity gaps, in particular in, inter alia, African countries, and that it will highlight opportunities for investment and cooperation and work to ensure that investments are environmentally, socially and economically sustainable;

[18] A/63/539, annex.

[19] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document WSFS 2009/2.

[20] Resolution 69/313, annex.

69. *Invites* all of Africa's development partners, in particular developed countries, to support the efforts of African countries to promote and maintain macroeconomic stability, to help African countries to attract investments and promote policies conducive to attracting domestic and foreign investment, for example by encouraging private financial flows and supporting small and medium-size enterprises, to promote investment by their private sectors in Africa, to encourage and facilitate the development and transfer of technology to African countries, on mutually agreed terms, and to assist in strengthening human and institutional capacities for the implementation of the New Partnership, consistent with its priorities and objectives and with a view to furthering Africa's development at all levels;

70. *Recognizes* the need for Africa's development partners to enhance their support to strengthen national data systems in African countries to become more responsive to the data requirements of integrated follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the African Union Agenda 2063, including enhancing their capacity to collect, analyse and produce high quality, disaggregated and timely data;

71. *Reiterates* the commitment to redouble efforts to substantially reduce illicit financial flows by 2030, with a view to eventually eliminating them, including by combating tax evasion and corruption through strengthened national regulation and increased international cooperation, in line with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda;

72. *Welcomes* the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 71/213 of 21 December 2016 on the promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows in order to foster sustainable development;

73. *Underscores* the importance of support by Africa's partners, in particular developed countries, of efforts by African countries in strengthening domestic resource mobilization, including through national-capacity building, enhanced international cooperation in tax matters and foreign direct investment that generates transfer of technology;

74. *Stresses* that the prevention, management and resolution of conflict and post-conflict consolidation are essential for the achievement of the objectives of the New Partnership, and welcomes in this regard the cooperation and support granted by the United Nations and development partners to the African regional and subregional organizations in the implementation of the New Partnership;

75. *Welcomes* the continued efforts of the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission in assisting post-conflict countries in Africa, particularly the six African countries for which the Commission has established country-specific configurations;

76. *Urges* the international community to continue to give due attention to Africa's priorities, including the New Partnership, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

77. *Requests* the United Nations system to continue to provide assistance to the Planning and Coordinating Agency of the New Partnership and to African countries in developing projects and programmes within the scope of the priorities of the New Partnership and to place greater emphasis on monitoring, evaluation and dissemination of the effectiveness of its activities in support of the New Partnership;

78. *Emphasizes* African ownership of the African Peer Review Mechanism process, and invites the international community to support the efforts of African

countries, at their request, in implementing their respective national programmes of action arising from the process;

79. *Requests* the Secretary-General to promote greater coherence in the work of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership, on the basis of the agreed clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa, and in this regard calls upon the United Nations system to continue to mainstream the special needs of Africa in all its normative and operational activities;

80. *Welcomes* the establishment of a United Nations monitoring mechanism to review commitments made relating to Africa's development, and invites Member States and all relevant entities of the United Nations system, including funds, programmes, specialized agencies and regional commissions, in particular the Economic Commission for Africa, and all relevant international and regional organizations, to contribute to the effectiveness and reliability of the review process by cooperating in the collection of data and the evaluation performance;

81. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its seventy second session on the basis of inputs from Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and other stakeholders in the New Partnership.

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Agenda item 32
Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Georgia: draft resolution

Status of internally displaced persons and refugees from Abkhazia, Georgia, and the Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia, Georgia

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions on the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, including its resolutions 62/153 of 18 December 2007, 62/249 of 15May 2008, 63/307 of 9 September 2009, 64/162 of 18 December 2009, 64/296 of 7 September 2010, 65/287 of 29 June 2011, 66/165 of 19 December 2011, 66/283 of 3 July 2012, 67/268 of 13 June 2013, 68/180 of 18 December 2013, 68/274 of 5 June 2014, 69/286 of 3 June 2015, 70/165 of 17 December 2015 and 70/265 of 7 June 2016,

Recalling also all relevant Security Council resolutions on Georgia relating to the need for all parties to work towards a comprehensive peace and the return of internally displaced persons and refugees to their places of origin, and stressing the importance of their full and timely implementation,

Recognizing the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement[1] as the key international framework for the protection of internally displaced persons,

Concerned by forced demographic changes resulting from the conflicts in Georgia,

Concerned also by the humanitarian situation caused by armed conflict in August 2008, which resulted in the further forced displacement of civilians,

Mindful of the urgent need to find a solution to the problems related to forced displacement in Georgia,

Underlining the importance of the discussions that commenced in Geneva on 15 October 2008 and of continuing to address the issue of the voluntary, safe, dignified and unhindered return of internally displaced persons and refugees on the basis of internationally recognized principles and conflict-settlement practices,

[1] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

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Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the implementation of resolution 70/265,[2]

1. *Recognizes* the right of return of all internally displaced persons and refugees and their descendants, regardless of ethnicity, to their homes throughout Georgia, including in Abkhazia and the Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia;

2. *Stresses* the need to respect the property rights of all internally displaced persons and refugees affected by the conflicts in Georgia and to refrain from obtaining property in violation of those rights;

3. *Reaffirms* the unacceptability of forced demographic changes;

4. *Underlines* the urgent need for unimpeded access for humanitarian activities to all internally displaced persons, refugees and other persons residing in all conflict-affected areas throughout Georgia;

5. *Calls upon* all participants in the Geneva discussions to intensify their efforts to establish a durable peace, to commit to enhanced confidence-building measures and to take immediate steps to ensure respect for human rights and create favourable security conditions conducive to the voluntary, safe, dignified and unhindered return of all internally displaced persons and refugees to their places of origin;

6. *Underlines* the need for the development of a timetable to ensure the voluntary, safe, dignified and unhindered return of all internally displaced persons and refugees affected by the conflicts in Georgia to their homes;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development".

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[2] A/71/899.

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Sustainable development

Oceans and the law of the sea: oceans and the law of the sea

Draft decision submitted by the President of the General Assembly

Accreditation and participation of intergovernmental organizations in the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

The General Assembly, recalling its resolution 70/303 of 9 September 2016, and taking note of the note by the Secretariat,[1] decides to accredit the organizations identified in the note by the Secretariat and invite them to participate as intergovernmental organizations in the work of the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, with observer status, in accordance with paragraph 15 of annex II to its resolution 70/303.

[1] A/71/909.

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